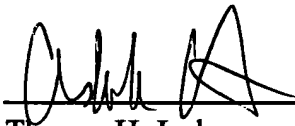


**REMARKS**

The amendments clarify and conform the specification. For example, portions of lines 7-8 on page 18, concerning random selection of an idle time slot, are moved to the first few lines of page 18, where random selection of an idle time slot is first discussed. Applicant believes that no new matter is included.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 14, 2000

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